Met Office

Summer 2008

The following represents a final assessment of the weather experienced across the UK during Summer 2008 (June/July/August) and how it compares with the 1971 to 2000 average (period used for the seasonal forecast).

Mean temperatures for the UK were slightly above average for all 3 summer months. There was a notable contrast between maximum and minimum temperature during August, with maximum temperatures 0.5 °C below average and minimum temperatures 1.3 °C above average. The maximum temperatures for the UK for August were the same as August 2007, which had been the coolest since 1994.

All three summer months had above-average rainfall across the UK, with August being the wettest month. Well above-average summer rainfall across most areas, with parts of Northern Ireland and eastern Scotland having around double their average rainfall. In contrast, some areas of northern Scotland and south-east England had below average rainfall.

Three contrasting months for sunshine over the UK, with June being above average , July just below average and August having exceptionally below average sunshine. Summer sunshine levels were below average across most areas.

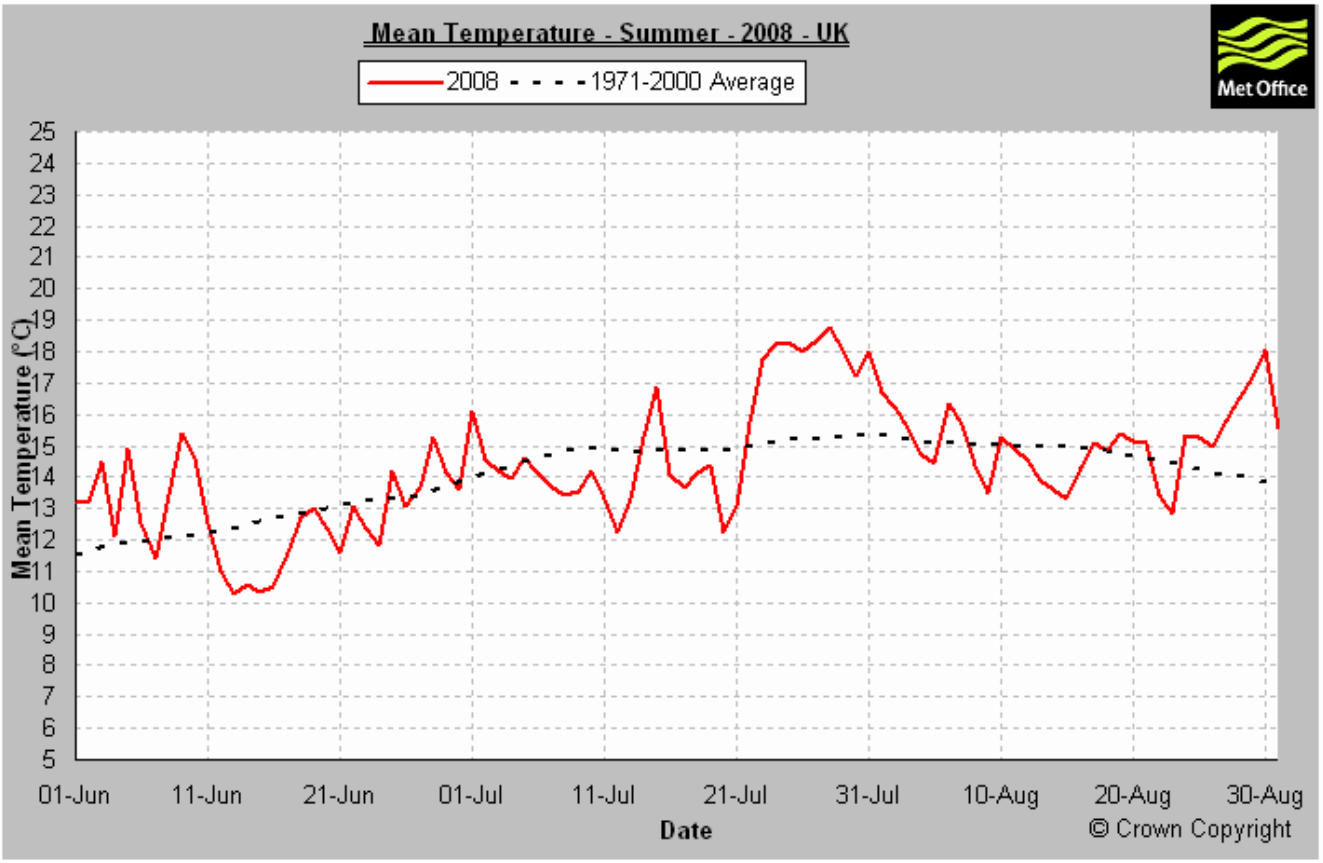
UK statistical summary

Mean temperature
The mean value for the season is 14.5 °C, which is 0.4 °C above the 1971-2000 average. Summer 2007 was cooler with 14.1°C and Summer 2006 was warmer with 15.8 °C.

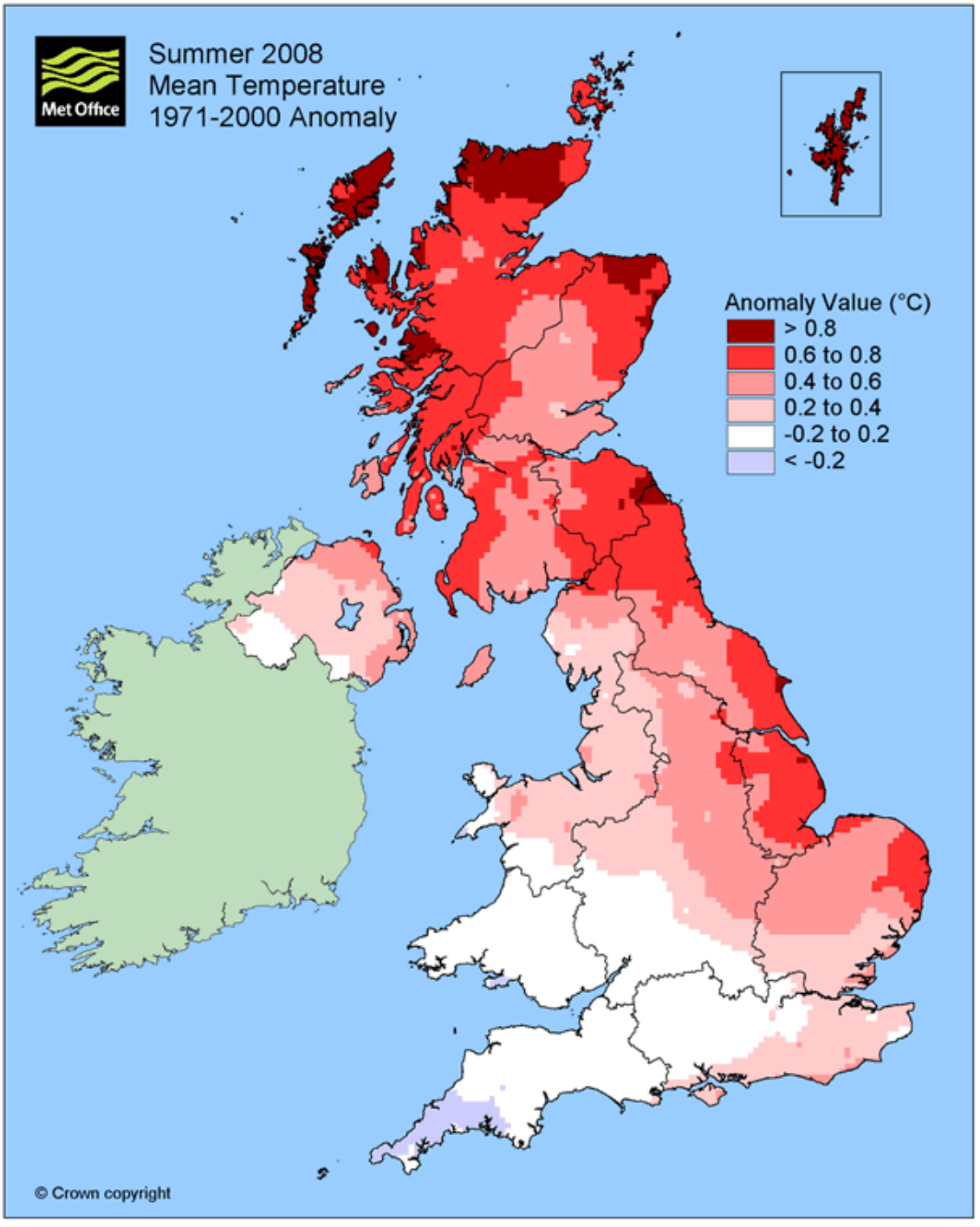
Rainfall
The total for the season is 320.2 mm, which is 141% of the 1971-2000 average.Summer 2007 was wetter with 357.1 mm and Summer 2006 was drier with 188.3 mm.

Sunshine
The total for the season is 451.4 hours, which is 88% of the 1971-2000 average.Summer 2007 was slightly sunnier with 473.0 hours. Last duller Summer was 2002, with 439.0 hours.

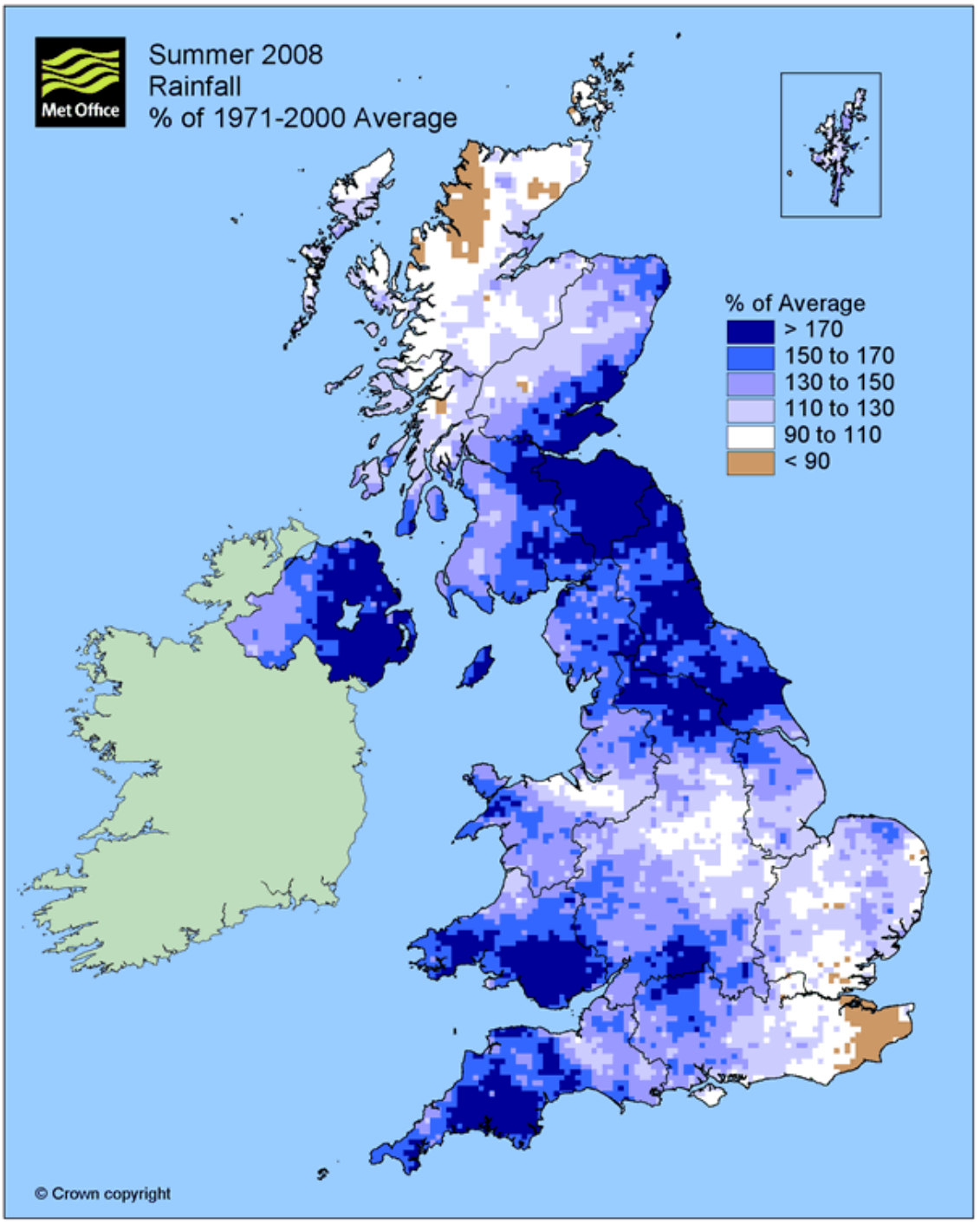
Graph of UK daily mean temperature for Summer 2008



Mean temperature anomaly (difference from average) map for Summer 2008



Rainfall percent of average map for Summer 2008



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